to conduct a survey to arrive at a comprehensive, scientifically varifiable definition of industrially backward districts;

(b) if so, when would the survey commence and what would be the terms of reference of the exercise;

(c) the purpose for which the observations of the study would be used;

(d) whether there is any package of incentives to promote industrialization in the backward Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Since the Planning Commission is of the opinion that various Committees have already looked into this, it is not proposed to conduct any fresh survey on identifying industrially backward districts.

(d) to (f) No incentive package for industrialization for the Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh has been proposed for the 11th Five Year Plan. Such incentive package have been extended to the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North-Eastern States which suffer from geographical isolation, inaccessible terrain, poor resource base, remoteness to larger market and poor infrastructure.

Utilization of funds under rural job scheme

*489. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the utilization of funds under rural job scheme, State-wise, during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that less than 30 per cent of funds for rural job scheme have been utilized, till now;

(c) whether there is any proposal with Government to increase the number of beneficiaries through this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details of steps to expedite implementation of the scheme, utilizing full fiscal allocations?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHAVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act was

launched in 200 identified districts on 2nd Februray, 2006. State-wise details of utilisation of funds since inception of the Act are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir. National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is a demand-driven programme. 71.56% of the total available funds so far been utilized by the States under the Act.

(c) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act guarantees 100 days of wage employment to every rural household in a financial year on demand. Thus, the Act is open to all rural households whose adult members voluneteer to do unskilled manual work and have obtained jobs cards by registering with the Gram Panchayats. There is no restriction on the number of beneficiaries under the scheme.

(d) With a view to expedite implementation of the programme, States have been advised to enhance awareness through IEC activities, strengthening training, expediting MIS, deploying key personnel, preparing adequate number of shelf of projects and ensuring monitoring and peoples' participation in proper implementation of the programme.

Statement

Details showing Centre Release, Total Available funds and Utilisation under NREGA in 200 Districts

(*Rs. in Lakh*)

Sl.No.	State	Centre Release		Total Available Funds (Centre Release + State Share+Misc. Receipt)	Utilisation	%age of utilisation to Total Available Funds
		2005-06	2006-07			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16474.8	99961.4	129811.2	68020.3	52.40
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	446.3	1210.9	1657.2	221.3	13.36
3.	Assam	33650.1	23970.9	88047.6	59252.9	67.30
4.	Bihar	30806.3	48581.4	100360.1	71276.2	71.02
5.	Gujarat	4241.1	6743.9	12602.1	8585.0	68.12
6.	Haryana	873.8	3129.4	4357.1	3594.7	82.50
7.	Himachal Pradesh	898.4	4207.6	5470.9	3940.1	72.02
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1135.3	3776.4	5414.8	3454.4	63.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Karnataka	4402.1	22970.7	30684.2	24829.7	80.92
10.	Kerala	1169.2	3179.5	4842.3	2789.7	57.61
11.	Madhya Pradesh	13713.8	186954.2	224669.3	186268.6	82.91
12.	Maharashtra	19743.6	19235.6	43813.0	17461.2	39.85
13.	Manipur	461.6	1252.9	2151.2	950.0	44.16
14.	Meghalaya	1457.9	2564.7	4038.9	2111.9	52.29
15.	Mizoram	770.9	1783.9	2723.4	1643.1	60.33
16.	Nagaland	1031.3	430.1	2111.4	1457.6	69.04
17.	Orissa	7384.8	76230.5	93167.4	73346.6	78.73
18.	Punjab	822.5	2755.8	4321.6	2500.2	57.85
19.	Rajasthan	4142.1	76161.0	87854.3	69306.1	78.89
20.	Sikkim	722.2	451.5	1178.7	261.9	22.22
21.	Tamil Nadu	6571.7	17089.2	28488.8	15163.6	53.23
22.	Tripura	2573.0	1914.7	6428.0	4200.8	65.35
23.	Uttar Pradesh	33242.1	56914.7	107804.9	77967.5	72.32
24.	West Bengal	17038.2	35858.8	63435.6	39462.6	62.21
25.	Chhattisgarh	785.0	70130.7	79096.7	66882.2	84.56
26.	Jharkhand	23429.7	54994.6	89804.8	71155.1	79.23
27.	Uttaranchal	1269.1	3910.6	6663.3	4849.7	72.78
	TOTAL:	229256.7	826365.5	1230998.76	880953.13	71.56

Financial irregularities by senior commissioners in Kolkata and Ludhiana

†*490. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:
PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that serious allegations of financial irregularities by a number of senior commissioners working in Kolkata (West Bengal)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.